

What is claimed is:

1. A compression process for compressing an image and storing the compressed image on a storage medium of a computer system, wherein a plurality of compression techniques are utilized to compress the image, comprising:

5                   segmenting the image into a plurality of n segments;  
                  analyzing a first segment of the plurality of segments to determine a first  
optimal compression for the first segment;  
                  applying the first compression technique to the first segment;  
                  storing the compressed first segment in the storage medium;  
                  analyzing a subsequent segment in the plurality of segments to determine a  
10                  second optimal compression for the subsequent segment;  
                  applying the second compression technique to the subsequent segment;  
                  storing the compressed subsequent segment in the storage medium; and  
                  repeating the steps of analyzing, applying and storing for each segment in  
the plurality of segments, wherein the nth segment is compressed by an nth compression  
15                  technique.

2. A compression process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first compression technique and the second compression technique are different.

3. A compression process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least two different compression techniques are applied to the plurality of segments.

4. A compression process as claimed in claim 1, wherein storing the compressed segment comprises writing a data file comprising data description members and display instruction members.

5. A compression process as claimed in claim 4, wherein storing the compressed segment comprises writing a data file further comprising memory management.

6. A compression process as claimed in claim 4, wherein storing the compressed segment comprises writing a data file selected from the group consisting of memory management, data description members and display instruction members.

7. A compression process for compressing an image stream having a plurality of images and storing the compressed images on a storage medium of a computer system, wherein a plurality of compression techniques are utilized to compress each image, comprising:

segmenting a first image into a plurality of  $n$  segments;

analyzing a first segment of the plurality of segments to determine a first optimal compression for the first segment;

applying the first compression technique to the first segment;

storing the compressed first segment in the storage medium;

analyzing a subsequent segment in the plurality of segments to determine a second optimal compression for the subsequent segment;

applying the compression technique to the subsequent segment;

storing the compressed subsequent segment in the storage medium;

repeating the steps of analyzing, applying and storing for each segment in the plurality of segments;

segmenting each subsequent image into a plurality of segments; and

repeating the steps of analyzing, applying and storing for each segment in each subsequent image.

8. A compression process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first compression technique and the second compression technique are different.

9. A compression process as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least two different compression techniques are applied to the plurality of segments.

10. A compression process as claimed in claim 1, wherein storing the compressed segment comprises writing a data file comprising a memory manager, data description members and display instruction members.

11. A file structure for storing compressed data in a data file, wherein the data file can be displayed on a playback device having a predefined amount of memory, comprising:

a memory management command in a first position in the data file, wherein the memory management command instructs the playback device to perform a predefined operation;

a set of data description members; and

a set of display instructions, wherein the display instructions include a starting data point, and size parameters of the data.

12. A file structure as claimed in claim 11, wherein the data description members, comprise:

an image identifier;

an image shape identifier; and

identifier of the number of fill styles, wherein the fill styles define the type of data in the segment;

a data draw command, wherein the data draw command instructs the playback device to display the data; and

a first affine transform, wherein the transform defines scaling, rotating or skewing of the data contained within the segment.

13. A file structure as claimed in claim 12, wherein the fill styles are selected from a group consisting of solid color data, gradient data, bitmap data, or pixel data.

14. A file structure as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a second affine transform, wherein the transform defines scaling, rotating or skewing of the segment.